

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A monitoring system for a self-service checkout system includes a component video camera, such as an RGB component video camera or an analog component video camera. The component video camera is coupled to the processor of a self-service checkout terminal and is operative to obtain a digital picture of an item during the self-checkout transaction. Preferably, the component video camera is operative to obtain a digital picture of an item such as produce when the item is on a scale of the self-checkout terminal and being weighed. This provides a high probability that the customer is not blocking the component video camera. The self-service checkout terminal is in communication with a monitoring station via a network such that the monitoring station can view the digital picture and/or store the digital picture. The digital picture can then be associated with the purchase transaction in a data warehouse. An attendant at a monitoring station can review the picture of an item being weighed virtually at the moment the item is being weighed.